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01/12/98  
JES72 U.S. PRO

PATENT  
064552.0166

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.8, I hereby certify that I have information and a reasonable basis for belief that this paper will be deposited as first-class mail with the United States Postal Service in an envelope addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on January 7, 1998.

Meliano Santo      1-7-98  
Signature      Date  
Reg. No. 834

### IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:	§	
Richardson et al.	§	
	§	Group No.: (Not yet assigned)
Serial No.: 08/877,738	§	
	§	Examiner: (Not yet assigned)
Filed: June 17, 1997	§	
	§	
For: Improved Drilling Method and	§	
Apparatus	§	

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Box Missing Parts  
Washington, D.C. 20231

### RESPONSE TO NOTICE TO FILE MISSING PARTS

This replies to the Notice to File Missing Parts of Application (PTO-1533) mailed November 7, 1997. A copy of the Notice to File Missing Parts of Application - Filing Date Granted

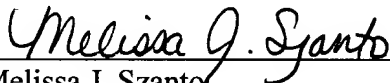
01/30/1998 PTO-1533) is enclosed.  
01 FC:105 BAILEY 00000048 08877738  
130.00 OP

No declaration or oath was filed. Enclosed is the original declaration for this application.

A check in the amount of \$130.00 is enclosed to cover the fee associated with the filing of the Notice to File Missing Parts of Application.

Applicant believes that no other fees are required. In the event that any other fees, including filing fees, are required for responding to the Notice to File Missing Parts of Application (PTO-1553) mailed November 7, 1997, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge such fees to deposit account no. 02-0383.

Respectfully submitted,

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Melissa J. Szanto  
Registration No. 40,834

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Attorney Docket No.: 064552.0166

Date: January 7, 1998